DOCKET NO.: 302762.01 / MSFT-2782
Application No.: 10/722,247
Office Action Dated: August 10, 2007

**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 35-55 and 58 will remain pending in this application. Claims 56 and 57 are hereby canceled. Claims 1-34 were previously canceled. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added in the above amendments.

Claims 35, 38, 40-48, 51, 54 and 56-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,630,116 ("Takaya"). Claims 36, 37, 49, 50, 52 and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Takaya in view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art ("APA"). Claims 39 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Takaya in view of APA and further in view of United States Patent No. 5,588,147 ("Neeman"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 35, 38, 40-48, 51, 54 and 56-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,630,116 ("Takaya"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse.

Independent claims 43 and 51 recite a master client that stores a master file, a server that stores a first replica of the master file, and a replication client that stores a second replica of the master file. The first replica is copied from the master file, and the second replica is copied from the first replica. The replication client is different than the master client.

Takaya (See Fig. 1) discloses a parent/child computing system in which the parent stores a master file and the client stores a first replica (*e.g.*, a replica copied from the master file). Takaya does not teach or suggest a second replica (*e.g.*, a replica copied from the first replica). Moreover, Takaya does not teach or suggest a replication client that is different from the master client for storing such a second replica.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 43 and 51 and all claims depending therefrom are not anticipated by APA. Claims 35, 38 and 40-42 are hereby cancelled. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 36, 37, 49, 50, 52 and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over APA in view of United States Patent No. 5,588,147 ("Neeman"). Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that claims 749, 50, 52 and 53 are patentable at least by reason of their dependency. Claims 36 and 37 are hereby cancelled. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application.

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